Message Text

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DRAFTED BY S/S-O:RKUCHEL
APPROVED BY S/S-O:RKUCHEL
S/S:WHLUERS
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O 252236Z JUN 74 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE
CONFIDENTIAL STATE 136858
TOSEC 22
FOLLOWING REPEAT JIDDA 3651 ACTION SECSTATE INFO ALGIERS
ABU DHABI AMMAN BEIRUT CAIRO DAMASCUS DHAHRAN KHARTOUM
SANAA TEL AVIV TRIPOLI LONDON 15 JUNE 1974. QUOTE:
CONFIDENTIAL 3651
COUNTRY TEAM MESSAGE
E.O.: 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, SU, SA
SUBJ: RELEASE OF KHARTOUM MURDERERS; PROTEST TO SAUDIS
REF: JIDDA 3638 (NOTAL)
1. WIRELESS BULLETIN THIS MORNING CARRIED REPORT THAT
MURDERERS OF CLEO NOEL AND CURT MOORE HAD BEEN SENTENCED
TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT. NEWS WAS NOT PARTICULARLY WELCOME.
KNOWNING WHAT THIS USUALLY MEANS IN MIDDLE EAST, WE
ASSUMED THAT AFTER A FEW YEARS THE MURDERERS WOULD BE
QUIETLY RELEASED. WE ALSO ASSUMED THIS WAS THE BEST THAT
COULD BE EXPECTED.
2. NOW OUR RADIOS INFORM US THE SENTENCES HAVE BEEN

COMMUTED. THE MURDERERS HAVE BEEN RELEASED AND ARE PRE-

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SUMED OUT OF THE COUNTRY.

- 3. WE CANNOT ADEQUATELY EXPRESS OUR HORROR AND DISGUST AND WE URGE THE DEPARTMENT TO MAKE THE MOST VIGOROUS PROTEST TO KHARTOUM IF THIS REPORT IS TRUE.
- 4. IF IT IS, GIVEN THE SAUDI INVOLVEMENT, WE ALSO BELIEVE WE SHOULD INFORM SAUDIS OFFICIALLY, AND IN THE STRONGEST TERMS. OF OUR VIEWS.
- 5. AMBASSADOR IS SCHEDULED TO SEE PRINCE FAHD, SAUDI MINISTER OF INTERIOR, TOMORROW EVENING (1600 GMT, JUNE 26) ON OTHER MATTERS (REFTEL). WE EXPECT THAT, AT A MINIMUM, HE WILL BE ABLE TO REFER TO AN OFFICIAL USG RACTION.
- 6. ACTION REQUESTED: WE REQUEST, THAT AMBASSADOR ALSO BE GIVEN A MESSAGE TO KING FAISAL OR PRINCE FAHD FROM THE PRESIDENT OR THE SECRETARY, GIVING THEIR VIEWS AND ASKING FOR PUBLIC SAUDI CONDEMNATION.
- 7. WE BELIEVE WE WOULD HAVE LITTLE CHANCE OF GETTING SAUDI COMPLIANCE, GIVEN THEIR TRADITIONS AND THEIR PAST RECORD. NONETHLESS WE BELIEVE THE REQUEST SHOULD BE MADE OF THEM. OUR POINTS WOULD BE WELL UNDERSTOOD AND THEY MIGHT EVEN RESULT IN SAUDI PRESSURE ON THE PALESTINIAN LEADERS TO TAKE SOME ACTION OF THEIR OWN AGAINST THE MURDERERS.

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TAGS: PFOR, SU, SA, (NOEL, CLEO A JR), (MOORE, CURTIS)

To: BRUSSELS

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